



CLEAN STORM WATER IS IMPORTANT TO ALL OF US

It's up to all of us to make it happen. In recent years sources of storm water pollution like industrial wastes from factories have been greatly reduced. Now, a significant percent of ocean water pollution comes from things like cars leaking oil, fertilizers from farms and gardens, and etc. All these sources add up to a big pollution problem. But each of us can do small things to help clean up our beaches and ocean waters too—and that adds up to a pollution solution!

Why do we need clean storm water?

Having clean storm water is of primary importance for our health and economy. Clean storm water provides recreation, commercial opportunities, fish habitat, drinking water and adds beauty to our landscape. All of us benefit from clean storm water—and all of us have a role in getting and keeping our lakes, rivers, ocean and ground waters clean.

Why is pet waste such a concern?

It's a health risk to pets and people, especially children. It's a nuisance in our neighborhoods. Pet waste is full of bacteria that can make people sick. If it's washed into the storm drain and ends up in a lake, beach, or ocean water. Unless people take care of it, the waste enters our ocean water with no treatment.

Clean Ocean Water Tips:

How can you get rid of pet waste and help keep our ocean waters clean? It's very simple and here are some tips. Scoop it up and flush it down the toilet. That's the best because then your community sewage treatment plant treats the pet waste. Seal the waste in a plastic bag and throw it in the garbage. Bury small quantities in your yard where it can decompose slowly. Dig a hole one foot deep. Put three to four inches of waste at the bottom of the hole. Cover the waste with at least eight inches of soil. Bury the waste in several different locations in your yard and keep it away from vegetable gardens.

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